

Message Text

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14

ORIGIN EB-07

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL MONTREAL

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, ICAO

SUBJECT: ICAO STUDY OF A STANDARD TRAFFIC FORM

FOR US REP ICAO

1. WITH REFERENCE TO FRENCH PROPOSAL FOR STANDARD TRAFFIC REPORTING FORM FOR USE AT INTERNATIONAL AIRPORTS, U.S. POSITION ON SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES REMAINS UNCHANGED FROM THAT COMMUNICATED LAST SEPT. (IGIA 51/3.57A).

2. WE UNDERSTAND COMMENTS OF OTHER ICAO MEMBER STATES WERE LARGELY NEGATIVE BUT DO NOT WISH TO DISCOUNT POSSIBILITY ECAC STATES, FOR EXAMPLE, MAY WEIGH IN AT ATC MEETING NEXT WEEK WITH STRONG SUPPORT FOR FRENCH PROPOSAL.

3. WE HAVE NO OBJECTION TO CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSAL ON THE MERITS. U.S. CARRIERS OPPOSE USE OF THE FORM AS ANTIFACILITATIVE, AND THERE APPARENTLY IS LITTLE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ENTHUSIASM AMONG U.S. AIRPORT INTERESTS. WE ARE

ENDEAVORING TO ASCERTAIN THEIR VIEWS MORE THOROUGHLY.

4. WE ARE NOT IMPRESSED WITH RATIONALE ADVANCED BY FRENCH, ETC IN DUBROVNIK WORKING PAPER (FAL/8-WP/78) AND BELIEVE ANY ICAO DECISION ON THE MERITS, PRO OR CONTRA, SHOULD

REST ON SOUND ANALYTICAL BASE, INCLUDING CAREFUL EXAMINATION OF REPORTING PRACTICES, NOW IN USE AND THEIR FACILITATIVE ATTRIBUTES.

5. THIS ITEM HAS BEEN INCLUDED ON ATC WORK PROGRAM TO FURNISH FURTHER GUIDANCE TO THE ICAO SECRETARIAT. WE THINK SUCH GUIDANCE USEFULLY MIGHT BE ALONG FOLLOWING LINES:

(A) BECAUSE OF THE FACILITATION IMPLICATIONS OF FRENCH PROPOSAL, ANY ATC ENDORSEMENT AT THIS TIME WOULD BE PREMATURE.

(B) THE MATTER DESERVES CAREFUL FURTHER STUDY. IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE FOR SECRETARIAT TO CARRY OUT SUCH A STUDY WITH A VIEW TO PRESENTING A REPORT TO THE 9TH FAL DIVISION FOR ITS CONSIDERATION. WE ARE CONFIDENT SECRETARIAT WILL BE ABLE TO OBTAIN SUFFICIENT DATA AND VIEWS FROM ICAO MEMBERS AND COMPETENT AIRLINE AND AIRPORT ASSOCIATIONS, TO BE ABLE TO COMPILE A THOROUGH AND OBJECTIVE REPORT IF ALLOWED ADEQUATE TIME FOR THE PURPOSE. U.S. WILL BE PREPARED TO CONTRIBUTE DATA TO ASSIST THE SECRETARIAT.

6. UNLESS US REP PERCEIVES OBJECTION, SHE IS REQUESTED TO ASCERTAIN INFORMALLY THE DEGREE OF SUPPORT WITHIN ATC FOR THIS COURSE OF ACTION. IF THERE APPEAR TO BE REASONABLE PROSPECTS OF SUCCESS, U.S. REP MAY MAKE A SUITABLE PROPOSAL ALONG THESE LINES OR SUPPORT SUCH A PROPOSAL BY ANOTHER MEMBER STATE.

7. IF THERE IS STRONG SENTIMENT FOR IMMEDIATE ENDORSEMENT OF THE FRENCH PROPOSAL, WITH LITTLE PROSPECT OF EFFECTIVE COUNTERACTION, U.S. REP NEED NOT OPPOSE.
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8. IN THE EVENT THERE IS PREPONDERANT SENTIMENT FOR DROPPING CONSIDERATION OF FRENCH PROPOSAL, U.S. REP MAY SUPPORT SUCH ACTION. KISSINGER

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